GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2506
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2002
ARREST OF FISHERMEN BY PAKISTAN
CHINTAMAN NAVSHA WANAGA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has arrested Indian fishermen for allegedly crossing the Indian Territorial waters;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and (

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) - (c) Yes. As per available information, Pakistan has 332 Indian fishermen currently in its custody, which were apprehended by Pakistan Maritime Security Agency during this year. Government have repeatedly taken up the issue of their release with the Government of Pakistan. As a result, 281 fishermen have been granted consular access. The issue of grant of consular access to the remaining fishermen and the early release of all the fishermen is being pursued with the Government of Pakistan.